

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A substrate processing apparatus operable to supply a fluid to a rotated substrate, the substrate processing apparatus operable to perform prescribed processing and comprising:

a substrate holding/rotating element configured and operable to hold and to rotate said substrate; and

an atmosphere blocking plate configured to ~~correspond~~ be substantially the same in planar shape and size ~~[[to]]~~ as said ~~substrate holding/rotating element~~, arranged oppositely and proximately to at least one entire major surface of said substrate when said substrate is held by said substrate holding/rotating element, and formed with a processing solution discharge port and a single inner gas discharge port operable to discharge a processing solution and gas to said surface of said substrate respectively,

wherein said single inner gas discharge port is arranged eccentrically to a center of said substrate holding/rotating element, and

an outer gas discharge port is formed on said atmosphere blocking plate and is positioned outside said single inner gas discharge port so as to continuously and annularly enclose said single inner gas discharge port in plan view, said outer gas discharge port operable to discharge the gas to said surface of said substrate held by said substrate holding/rotating element.

2. **(Canceled)**

3. **(Previously Presented)** The substrate processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said outer gas discharge port is so formed on said atmosphere blocking plate such that an arrival position of said gas discharged from said outer gas discharge port is in the vicinity of said intermediate portion between the center and the outer peripheral edge of said surface of said substrate held by said substrate holding/rotating element.

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